

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 19589

USIA FOR IEU, IBS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PINT, SOPN, UR, US
SUBJECT: AUDIBILITY OF RADIO LIBERTY IN CENTRAL ASIA

REF: MOSCOW 19157

1. SUMMARY. RL TURKESTANI SERVICE IS OFTEN AUDIBLE IN SEVERAL CENTRAL ASIAN CITIES (THOUGH NOT DUSHANBU). DUSK ON 16 METERS GIVES BEST RECEPTION. RUSSIAN AND OTHER SERVICES ARE OFTEN AVAILABLE ON A VARIETY OF FREQUENCIES, ESPECIALLY ON THE 31 AND 25 METER BANDS. END SUMMARY.

2. EMBOFF, VISITING URGENCH, SAMARKAND, BUKHARA AND DUSHANBE BETWEEN DEC 5 AND 14, MONITORED RL BROADCASTS, FOCUSING ESPECIALLY ON TURKESTANI SERVICE. IN FOLLOWING REPORTS, ALL FREQUENCIES ARE IN KHZ, ALL TIMES GMT, SCHEDULE USED WAS RFE/RL WINTER SCHEDULE NO. 66. RADIO WAS A SONY ICF-5900. EMBOFF IS ACQUAINTED WITH RL TURKESTANI CALL SIGNS, AND SPEAKS ENOUGH TURKISH TO BE ABLE TO DIFFERENTIATE RL BROADCASTS FROM OTHERS.

3. URGENCH, DEC 5. 1900-1930: JAMED ON: 3960, 7155, 7220, 9505,
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9520, 9555, 9660, 9680, 11970. UNAVAILABLE ON: 5955, 6105,
6170, 7245, 7295, 9715.

4. URGENCH, DEC 6. 0450-0520: JAMMED ON: 3960, 5955, 7155, 7180,
7220, 7295, 9520, 9555, 9625, 11725 (BAD JAMMING), 11970;
UNAVAILABLE ON: 5985, 7245, 9540, 9680, 11875. 1020-1040: JAMMED

ON: ALL FREQUENCIES EXCEPT 17760, WHICH UNAVAILABLE. 1230-1250: JAMMED ON ALL FREQUENCIES EXCEPT 15380, 17725, AND 17895, WHICH UNAVAILABLE. BEGINNING AT 1300, RL TURKESTANI WAS EASILY AUDIBLE OVER SLIGHT JAMMING ON 17750, 17725 WAS MUCH MORE BADLY JAMMED AND SUBJECT TO FADING. 15370 WAS BADLY JAMMED. THIS PATTERN CONTINUED UNTIL 1400 WITH 17750 CONSTANTLY AUDIBLE, 17725 OCCASIONALLY SO AND 15370 CONTINUALLY JAMMED. 17750 REMAINED GOOD (AND IMPROVED UNTIL 1500). BETWEEN 1400 AND 1500, 15370 WAS OCCASIONALLY AUDIBLE OVER JAMMING. 1730-1800: JAMMED ON: 6105, 6170, 7220, 9505, 9520 (BADLY), 9555, 9680. UNAVAILABLE ON: 7245, 7295, 9715, 11835, 11875, 11970. RUSSIAN RL WAS BARELY AUDIBLE OVER JAMMING ON 9565, WHILE ON 11970, RL RUSSIAN MANAGED TO OVERCOME BAD JAMMING (A PROGRAM ON OSTROVSKIY AT 1745).

5. SAMARKAND, DEC 7, 1345-1430. RL TURKESTANI BADLY JAMMED ON 15370. 17725 WAS AUDIBLE AND IMPROVED SOMEWHAT, BUT WAS LESS GOOD THAN 17750 WHICH STARTED AUDIBLE WITH DIFFICULTY AND IMPROVED TO EXCELLENT BY 1410. 15370 WAS AUDIBLE BEGINNING AT 1400 BUT WAS ALSO LESS GOOD THAN 17750. 1740-1800: JAMMED ON: 6105, 7220, 7245, 7295, 9520, 9680 (BADLY), 11970. UNAVAILABLE ON ALL OTHER FREQUENCIES.

6. SAMARKAND, DEC 8, 0320-0340: JAMMED ON: 5944, 9520, 9555, 9660, 9680, AND 11725. LATTER FOUR VERY BADLY JAMMED. UNAVAILABLE ON ALL OTHER FREQUENCIES. 0400-0420: JAMMED ON: 5955, 5985 (BADLY), 7180, 7220(BADLY), 7295, 9520, 9555, 9660, 11725, AND 11970. ALL OTHER FREQUENCIES UNAVAILABLE. 1445-1455: JAMMED ON: 7220, 11895. UNAVAILABLE ON ALL OTHER EXCEPT 11970 WHERE RL RUSSIAN WAS GETTING THROUGH BAD JAMMING AND 17750 WHERE CONFIDENTIAL

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RL TURKESTANI BARELY OVERCAME JAMMING. 1710-1730: JAMMED ON: 6105, 7295, 9520, 9555, 9680, 9715, 11835, 11970. UNAVAILABLE ON ALL OTHER EXCEPT 7220 WHERE MODERATE JAMMING SCARCELY HINDERED THE AUDIBILITY OF RL RUSSIAN. 1825-1845: JAMMED ON: 3960, 5955, 6105 (BADLY), 7220, 7245 (BADLY), 11970. UNAVAILABLE ON: 6170, 7295, 11875. ALL 31 METER BAND FREQUENCIES WERE AUDIBLE, THOUGH QUALITY VARIED, THE BEST RECEPTION BEING ON 9660 AND 9680.

7. SAMARKAND, DEC 9, 1320-1340: UNAVAILABLE ON: 9725, 11885, 11970, 15290, 15370, 15380, 15445, 17725, 17750, 17760, 17845, 17895. JAMMED ON: 7220, 11895. AUDIBLE ON 15340 AND 17750. 1845-1900: UNAVAILABLE ON: 3960, 5955, 9520, 9555, 9715, 11885. JAMMED ON ALL OTHER FREQUENCIES.

8. SAMARKAND, DEC 10, 0340-0400: JAMMED ON: 3960, 5955, 7155, 7180, 7295, 9555, 9660, 11750, 11970. UNAVAILABLE ON ALL OTHERS EXCEPT 9520, WHERE A SIGNAL WAS BARELY AUDIBLE.

9. BUKHARA, DEC 10, 0745-0800: UNAVAILABLE ON 15445, ALL OTHERS JAMMED. 1200-1220: UNAVAILABLE ON: 9725, 11885; ALL OTHERS JAMMED (17760 PARTICULARLY BADLY). 1325-1345: JAMMED ON 7220. ALL OTHERS UNAVAILABLE EXCEPT 11895, WHERE THE RUSSIAN SERVICE OVERCAME VERY LIGHT JAMMING WITH A GOOD SIGNAL (COMMENTARY ONKOVALEV AT 1332). 1700-1720: JAMMED: 6105, 7220, 7295, 9505, 9520, 9680. ALL OTHERS UNAVAILABLE EXCEPT 9565 AND 11970 WHERE RL RUSSIAN AUDIBLE.

10. BUKHARA, DEC 11, 1300-1320: JAMMED ON: 7220, 11970, 15290, 15340, 15380, 15445, 17845, 17895. ALL OTHERS UNAVAILABLE EXCEPT 15370 WHERE RL TURKESTANI OVERCAME JAMMING. 1810-1830: JAMMED: 3960, 6105, 7220, 7245 (BADLY), 7295, 9505, 9520, 11970. UNAVAILABLE: 5955, 9555, 9715. AUDIBLE: 9660 AND 9680 BOTH PRACTICALLY UNJAMMED. RL AZERBAIJANI HAD A GOOD SIGNAL ON 11875.

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11. DUSHANBE, DEC 12, 1030-1040: JAMMED ON ALL FREQUENCIES. (DUSCHANBE WAS THE ONLY CITY IN WHICH A JAMMING TOWER WAS OBSERVED.) 1305-1320: ALL FREQUENCIES JAMMED EXCEPT THOSE IN THE 19 METER BAND WHICH WERE UNAVAILABLE. 1710-1730: ALL FREQUENCIES JAMMED EXCEPT 6170, 7245, 7295, 9715, 11835 WHICH UNAVAILABLE.

12. DUSHANBE, DEC 13, 0230-0245: UNAVAILABLE: 7180, 9520, 9625. ALL OTHER FREQUENCIES JAMMED EXCEPT 7220, WHERE RL TARTAR-BASHKIR OVERCAME LIGHT JAMMING WITH AN AUDIBLE SIGNAL. 0600-0620: UNAVAILABLE 3960 AND 17750. ALL OTHER FREQUENCIES JAMMED. 1335-1350: ALL FREQUENCIES JAMMED EXCEPT 9725 AND 15445 WHICH UNAVAILABLE AND 7220 AND 11970 WHERE A SIGNAL WAS BARELY AUDIBLE THROUGH BAD JAMMING.

13. DUSHANBE, DEC 14, 0030-0045: ALL FREQUENCIES JAMMED. MATLOCK

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